Appln. No. : 10/601,152

Page: 6

REMARKS

By way of this amendment, claims 1, 10 and 15 have been amended. Claims 1-18 remain pending. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the present application.

In the Office Action, claims 1-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being unpatentable by Okamoto (EP 1,049,277 A2), Applicants' Admitted Prior Art (AAPA). The Examiner stated that Okamoto discloses an RF receiver comprising the various claimed elements, but nowhere did the Examiner refer to AAPA. Applicants have amended the independent claims 1 and 10 to clarify that the regional data is specific to a plurality of predetermined geographic regions and that the data processor obtains the regional data specific to one of the plurality of geographic regions designated for the selected user specific region, and submit that the claims, as amended, are not anticipated by the Okamoto reference or AAPA for the reasons presented below.

The claimed invention as recited in claim 1, as amended, is directed to an RF receiver comprising an input for receiving an RF signal containing a stream of broadcast data, the stream of broadcast data including primary data and regional data, wherein the primary data is intended to be distributed over a broadcast area and the regional data is specific to a plurality of predetermined geographic regions of the broadcast area. The receiver also includes a device for selecting a user specific region, and a decoder for acquiring the regional data from the stream of broadcast data. The receiver further includes a data processor for processing the regional data and the selected user specific region to obtain the regional data specific to one of the plurality of geographic regions designated for the selected user specific region. Finally, the receiver includes an output for outputting the regional data specific to the one of the plurality of geographic regions pertaining to the selected user specific region. Method claim 10, as amended, recites steps which similarly include receiving an RF signal containing the stream of broadcast data including primary data and regional data specific to a plurality of predetermined

Appln. No. : 10/601,152

Page: 7

geographic regions, receiving a selection of a user specific region, acquiring the regional data from the stream of broadcast data, processing the regional data and the selected user specific region to obtain the regional data specific to one of the plurality of predetermined geographic regions designed for the selected user specific region, and providing the regional data specific to the one of the plurality geographic regions pertaining to the selected user region as an output.

In contrast, the Okamoto reference discloses a receiver device 10 that receives and tunes in digital audio broadcast (DAB) radio waves. The receiver extracts and demodulates the broadcast program selected by the user from among a plurality of multiplexed broadcast programs available on the received broadcast radio waves, and makes the selected broadcast program audible to the listener. The Okamoto receiver specifically receives an RF signal from a tuned in frequency of a DAB and extracts the position information on the signal transmission site.

The DAB received in the receiver of Okamoto is sent as a broadcast radio wave formed of multiplexed audio data for a plurality of broadcast programs. The DAB broadcast radio wave is shown in FIG. 3 of Okamoto with each frame comprising a null symbol, a synchronizing symbols, first information channel (FIC), and main service channel (MSC) (see paragraph 0050). The information transmitted by the FIC includes multiplexed arrays of broadcast programs, whereas the MSC is comprised of a plurality of data fields for a plurality of multiplexed broadcast programs. The DAB receiver extracts the broadcast program specified by the user from the plurality of broadcast programs multiplexed onto the DAB broadcast radio wave, by utilizing multiplexing information and broadcast program identification information contained in the FIC.

In Okamoto, a controller 19 can detect the transmission site identification information for the transmitting site setting the DAB broadcast radio wave that is tuned in with the receiver. The controller 19 thus detects the local service area information having the service

Appln. No. : 10/601,152

Page: 8

ID for the regional program from the local service area information that was extracted from the FIC of the broadcast radio wave received and tuned in. Based on this region ID information from the detected local area service information, the geographic region information is detected from the region identification information extracted from the FIC. This geographic region information is information specifying the service area of the applicable regional program. The controller 19 then supplies the detected geographic region information to the display device 30 which displays the service area of the region program as a rectangular area. It appears that the broadcast DAB signals in Okamoto contain ID information on the transmission site for a single region, as opposed to a plurality of regions.

In order to anticipate a claim, the reference must teach each and every limitation of the claim. Nowhere does the Okamoto reference disclose a receiver having an input receiving an RF signal containing a stream of broadcast data including primary data and regional data, wherein the primary data is intended to be distributed over a broadcast area and the regional data is specific to a plurality of determined geographic regions of the broadcast area, and a data processor for processing the regional data and the selected user specific region to obtain the regional data specific to one of the plurality of predetermined geographic regions designated for the selected user specific region. Instead, the Okamoto reference appears to teach a receiver that receives DAB signals from various transmission sites. Each DAB signal at a select frequency is broadcast from a given transmission site and includes a main service channel data and first information channel data that pertains to the signal transmission location. Okamoto's receiver then extracts the position information on the transmission site.

Applicants' independent claims 1 and 10, as amended, clearly requires that the receiver receive a stream of broadcast data that has regional data specific to a plurality of predetermined geographic regions of the broadcast area, and processes the regional data to obtain regional data specific to one of the plurality of predetermined geographic regions designated for a selected user specific region. Okamoto does not teach receiving a stream of broadcast data and

Appln. No. : 10/601,152

Page: 9

processing regional data for a plurality of geographic regions. Instead, Okamoto receives and processes data specific to the transmission site of the DAB signal. Accordingly, the Okamoto reference does not teach each and every limitation of independent claims 1 and 10, as amended, and thus these claims and dependent claims 2-9 and 11-18 are not anticipated by Okamoto.

Accordingly, claims 1-18, as amended, are not anticipated by Okamoto, and the rejection to claims 1-18 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) based on Okamoto, AAPA should therefore be withdrawn, which action is respectfully solicited.

By way of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants have demonstrated that the claims, as amended, are not anticipated by the Okamoto reference or AAPA and the rejection of these claims should therefore be withdrawn, which action is respectfully solicited. If the Examiner has any questions regarding the claims, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the Examiner's convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

November 22, 2006 /Kevin T. Grzelak/

Date Kevin T. Grzelak, Registration No. 35 169

Price, Heneveld, Cooper, Dewitt & Litton, LLP

695 Kenmoor, S.E. Post Office Box 2567

Grand Rapids, Michigan 49501

(616) 949-9610

KTG/jrb